

Message Text

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-----034283 011831Z /45

R 011635Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY WEIL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, YO

SUBJECT: U.S.-YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC-COMMERCIAL WORKING GROUPS
(WG'S)

1. YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR BELOVSKI VISITED ME JULY 26 TO
DISCUSS ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF WG,S. HE REVIEWED
BASIC CONCEPTS, CLARIFYING THAT THESE ARE NOT MIXED
COMMISSIONS, POINTING OUT THAT SOME YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS
WERE APPARENTLY UNCLEAR UNTIL RECENTLY ON THIS POINT. ON
REPRESENTATIVES, HE INDICATED THEY WOULD PLAN ON INCLUDING,
AS APPROPRIATE, U.S.-YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC COUNCIL REPS, THE
PERMANENT YUGOSLAV TRADE REP IN THE U.S. AND THE REP OF THE
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PAGE 02 STATE 193453

YUGOSLAV SELF-MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY FOR ECONOMIC RELATIONS
WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

2. AMBASSADOR BELOVSKI SUGGESTED THE ADDITION OF ONE
SENTENCE (PAGE 1) AS A FIRST OBJECTIVE, TO READ AS
FOLLOWS: THE WORKING GROUPS SHALL QUOTE CONTRIBUTE TO THE
PROMOTION AND EXPANSION OF BROAD ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN

ALL APPLICABLE AREAS END QUOTE. I SUPPORT THIS FELICITOUS CHANGE AS IT STRENGTHENS THE OBJECTIVES OF THE WG'S.

3. I SUGGESTED THAT WE HAVE AN INITIAL MEETING OF THE WASHINGTON WG ON SEPTEMBER 8, WITH USG PRINCIPALS AND KEY BUSINESSMEN, SUCH AS FROM DOW CHEMICAL, CATERPILLAR AND WESTINGHOUSE TO DISCUSS PROCEDURES AND INITIATE DISCUSSION OF SOME OF THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES. THE AMBASSADOR CONCURRED HEARTILY. MY STAFF WILL BE DEVELOPING AN AGENDA WITH STATE, OTHER AGENCIES AND THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY.

4. WE CONCEIVE OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING AS A KICK-OFF AND SEE NO DIFFICULTY IN HAVING A FULL-SCALE SESSION IN BELGRADE IN THE FALL IF THAT CAN BE ARRANGED. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE ALREADY FULL SCHEDULE OF YUGOSLAV VISITS TO THE U.S., AND THE APPROACHING VACATION PERIOD, A SEPTEMBER WG MEETING MIGHT BE TOO EARLY. HOWEVER, WE LEAVE THAT TO YOU TO WORK OUT.

5. I AM STILL PLANNING TO VISIT ZAGREB ON SEPTEMBER 15 IN CONNECTION WITH THE U.S. EXHIBIT AT THE FALL FAIR AND COULD, THEREFORE, ATTEND AN EVENTUAL WG MEETING IN BELGRADE THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

6. BEST WISHES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SUMMER AND WARM REGARDS. SINCERELY, FRANK A. WEIL, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
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PAGE 03 STATE 193453

FOR INDUSTRY AND TRADE. VANCE

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